



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Office of Private Occupational School Education
1000 Washington Street • Boston • Massachusetts • 02118

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HANDOUT:
PROSPECTIVE NURSE AIDE TRAINING SCHOOLS APPLICATION PROCESS FOR
PROSPECTIVE NURSE AIDE TRAINING PROGRAMS

Organizations seeking to offer Nurse Aide Training (NAT) programs within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must obtain **approval** from the Department of Public Health's Nurse Aide Registry (DPH) **and** must be **licensed** by the Massachusetts Division of Professional Licensure (DPL). Below are the steps to ensure a smooth and timely process.

- 1) **Request Financial Application.** Contact the Office of the State Auditor's (OSA) Division of Private Occupational Schools Audits at 617-727-6200 or <http://www.mass.gov/auditor/about-the-state-auditors-office/occupational-schools.html> to request a financial application.
- 2) **Complete OSA application and submit to OSA.** Keep a copy of the financial application for your records. Prospective schools must obtain a determination from the OSA that the school is financially qualified to apply for a private occupational school license. DPL cannot review applications for prospective schools or programs until financial solvency has been determined by the OSA. OSA review typically takes between four and eight weeks.
- 3) **Request application from DPH.** While awaiting financial determination from the OSA, you may request an application for NAT program approval from DPH. Review DPH's application thoroughly as DPH has program-specific requirements that must also be addressed in DPL's application for school licensure.
- 4) **Draft DPL Application For Licensure.** After reviewing DPH's application requirements, complete a draft of DPL's application to the best of your ability, making notes about questions. Be sure to integrate DPH's requirements into curriculum, equipment, policies, etc.
- 5) **Submit DPL Application.** Submit a completed and fully executed application to DPL. Keep a copy of the application and attachments for your records. DPL will conduct a thorough review of the application and provide a detailed written response to which the school must provide additional documentation and/or make amendments to the application. This process may take two to four months.
- 6) **Draft DPH Application.** While working with DPL to complete its application, you can draft DPH's application.
- 7) **Apply to DPH.** Once you have been informed by DPL that the application is complete and the only remaining piece is DPH's approval, then you may submit a fully executed and completed application to DPH.
- 8) **Work With DPH to Obtain Approval.**



9) **DPH Site Visit.** DPH will arrange a site visit with the organization to inspect the facility and ensure it is properly set up and has all required equipment.

10) **DPL Site Visit.** If the organization intends to offer program(s) in addition to NAT, DPL will also conduct a site visit. Sometimes DPL and DPH conduct the site visit jointly.

11) DPH Approval and DPL License Granted.

- After all requirements are met, DPH will issue the organization an approval number so its graduates will be eligible to sit for the state's NAT exam.
- After receipt of DPH's approval and if all other documentation is complete, DPL will issue the organization a license to operate a private occupational school within the Commonwealth.